(a) whether it is a fact that Oil India Ltd. has a plan to wind up its onshore and offshore bay exploration project in Orissa during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, whether any success has been achieved in drilling offshore wells and explore wells onshore in Orissa; and

(d) how much amount has been spent so far in such exploration?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c) Though there are indications of hydrocarbons deposits, drilling by Oil India Limited (OIL) so far has not resulted in discovery of oil and gas of commercial significance in the Bay Exploration Project and in the North East Coast (NEC) offshore area in Orissa. Consequently, OIL is now carefully studying the drilling data alongwith seismic data for reviewing and re-evaluating the hydrocarbons prospects. Further drilling will depend up the results of review and re-evaluation of data. OIL is continuing its exploratiory efforts, including drilling in NEC offshore area.

(d) OIL has spent a sum of about Rs. 202 crores from inception upto 31st March, 1988 in its Petroleum Exploration Licence areas in Orissa.

Kerosene allotted to Orissa

1298. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of kerosene allotted to Orissa during the year 1987-88; and

(b) whether Government are aware that a large number of consumers suffered a lot for the last three months due to shortage of kerosene in the State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) The quantity of kerosene oil allocated to Orissa and its actual offtake during 1987-88 are given below:—

(Figures in tonnes)

Month	Allocation	Supplies
April, 87	10160	9632
May, 87	10160	9535
June, 87	10160	9540
July, 87	10845	10535
Aug., 87	10845	10218
Sept., 87	10845	10609
Oct., 87	10845	10967
Nov., 87	12100	11778
Dec., 87	12550	11911
Jan., 88	12100	11825
Feb., 88	12100	10374
March, 88	11000	11617

It will be seen from the above data that the releases have been, by and large, in line with the allocations. However, some shortage is reported to have been felt in Feb., 1988 due to labour problems at Haldia and non-availability of adequate number of tankwagons. The situation has since improved.

Safety and Environment Institute in Goa

1299. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has decided to establish a Safety and Environment Institute in Goa during the current plan period;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) by when the said Institute is likely to start functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) ONGC propose to set up an Institue of Petroleum Safety and Environment Management at Goa. The details of the activities envisaged in the Institute are:—

(i) To promtoe the standard of safety, Health and Environment.

(ii) To develop facilities towards Safety and Environment training.

(c) The Institue is likely to be set up by 1992.

Irregularities committed by the Chairman and Directors of the National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives Limited

1300. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that statutory auditors have pointed out financial irregularities including foreign exchange irregularities being committed by the Chairman and Directors of the Board of Directors of the National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives Limited.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Board of Directors passed some resolutions against the auditors justifying the financial irregularities;

(d) if so, the details thereof and what specific steps Government have taken against the Chairman and Board of Directors in this regard; and

(e) whether Government propose to recover the amount involved from the Chairman and Board of Directors; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELPOMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Statutory Auditors have pointed out financial irregularities committed by the Chairman and Directors on the Board of the National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives Ltd. in their reports for the cooperative years 1980-81 and 1981-82. These irregularities were mainly on account of TA/DA drawn by the Chairman and Directors of the Board. The audit reports for the years 1980-81 and 1981-82 have already been laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 5.5.86 and 26.8.87 respectively.

(c) and (d) The Board of Directors passed a resolution in Feb. 1986 that the Auditors' view was onesided and the concerned persons had not been given an opportunity to express their views by the Auditors. On the